



FEMA



Prepared by  
*Cindy Elsenheimer*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Friday May 8, 2020

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information.

To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh).



- **Severe thunderstorms and isolated heavy rainfall/flash flooding across LA and SE TX today.**
- **Elevated fire weather conditions across S NM/W TX today.**
- **Heavy rain/flash flooding across S TX Saturday.**

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

May 8, 2020 - May 12, 2020



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DAY / THREAT	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
Severe Storms	LA/SE TX				
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	LA/STX	STX			
Fire Weather	S NM/W TX				
Tropical Weather					
Winter Weather					
River Flooding	MS River	MS River	MS River	MS River	MS River
	AR/LA/E TX	AR/LA/E TX	AR/LA/E TX	AR	AR

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

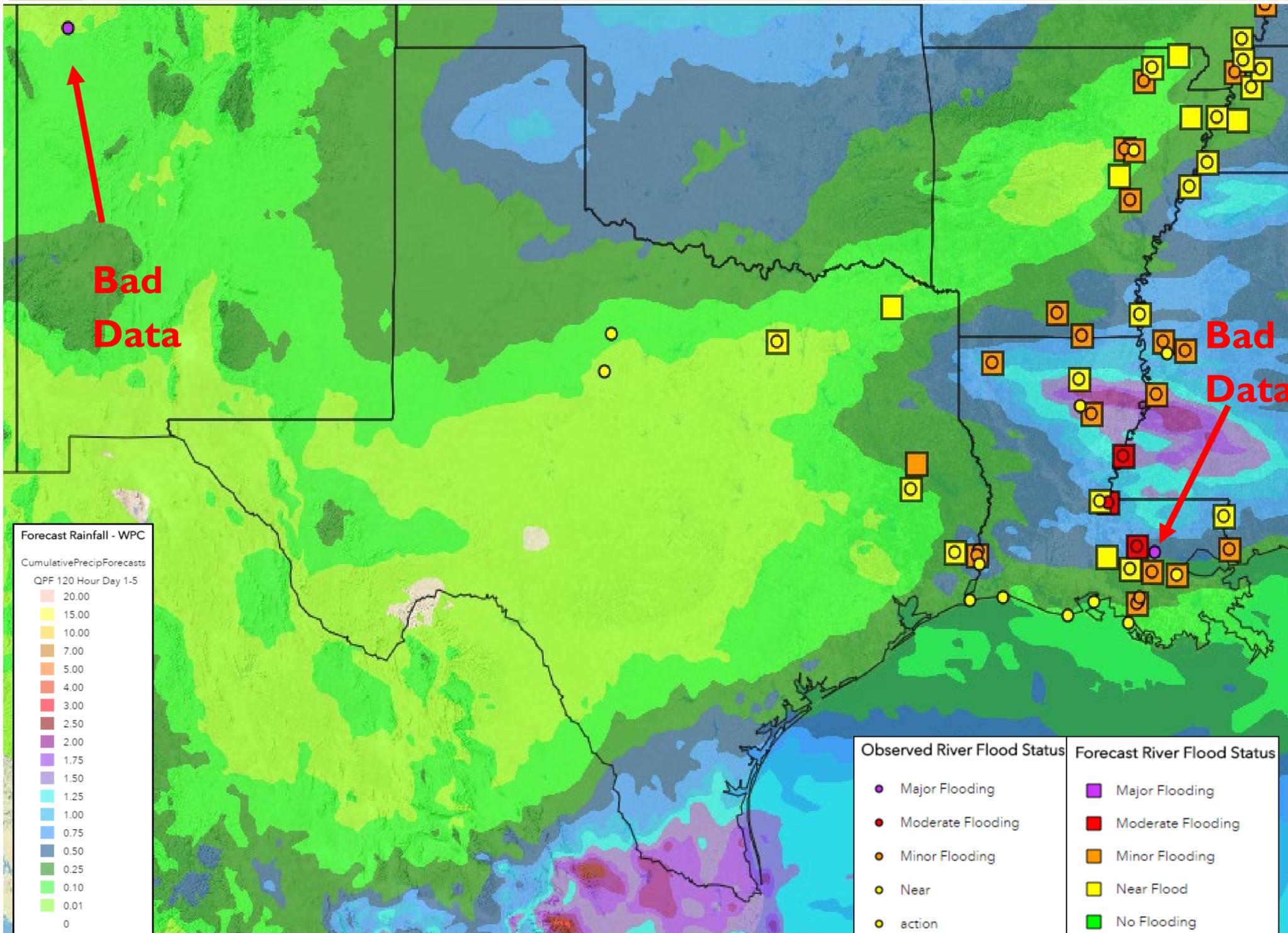
*\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.\**  
*For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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*Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall*



- **Moderate flooding continues south of Vicksburg on the MS River. Baton Rouge has finally fallen to moderate flood stage.**
- **The Atchafalaya River at Morgan City, LA has fallen to just below moderate flood stage where it will remain for the next week.**

**Minor river flooding continues across AR, LA and E TX. Impacts are primarily to agriculture and secondary roads.**

# Today's Weather



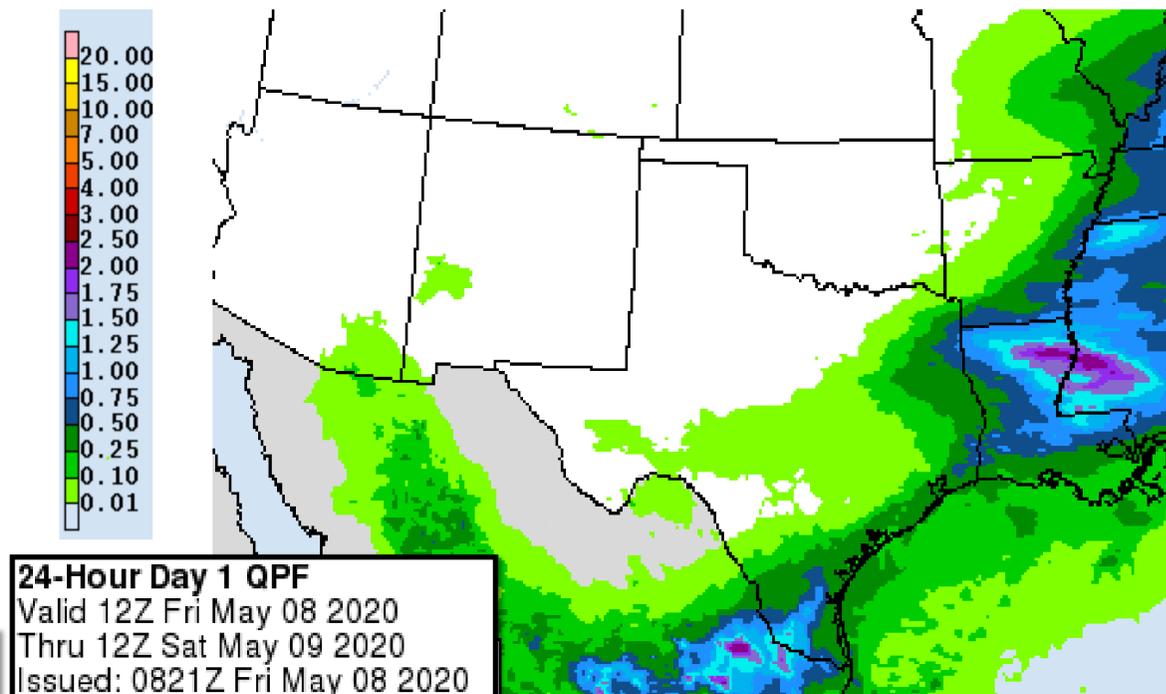
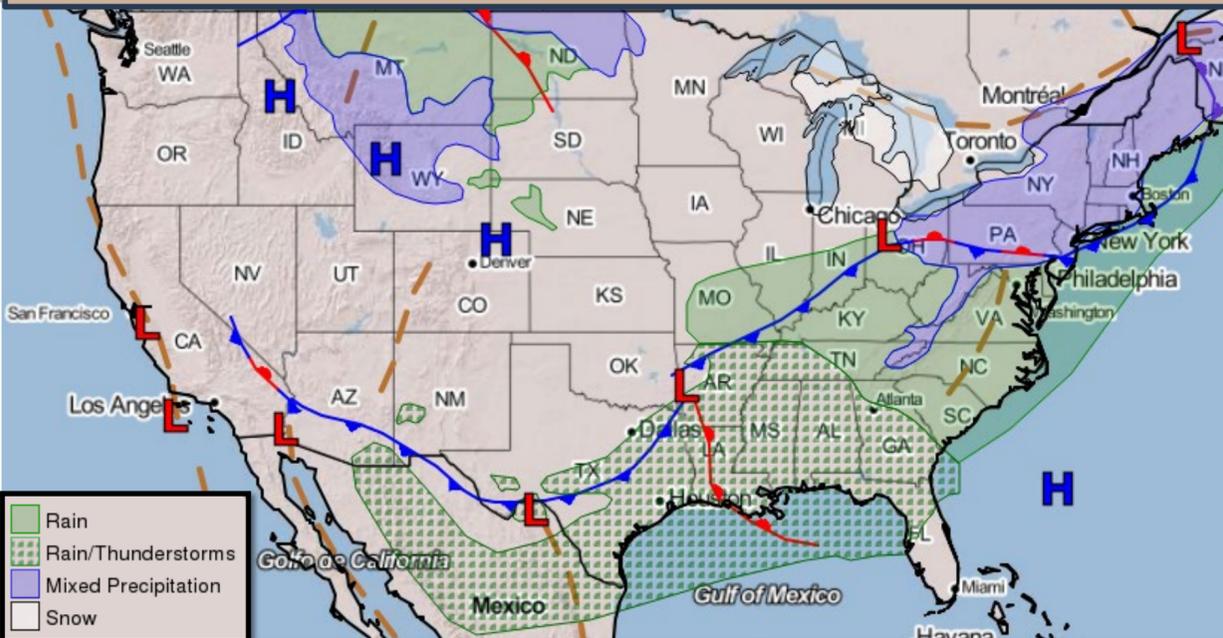
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## Forecast Chart

## Forecast Rainfall

**Severe thunderstorms across LA and SE TX.**

**Isolated flash flooding across LA and S TX.**

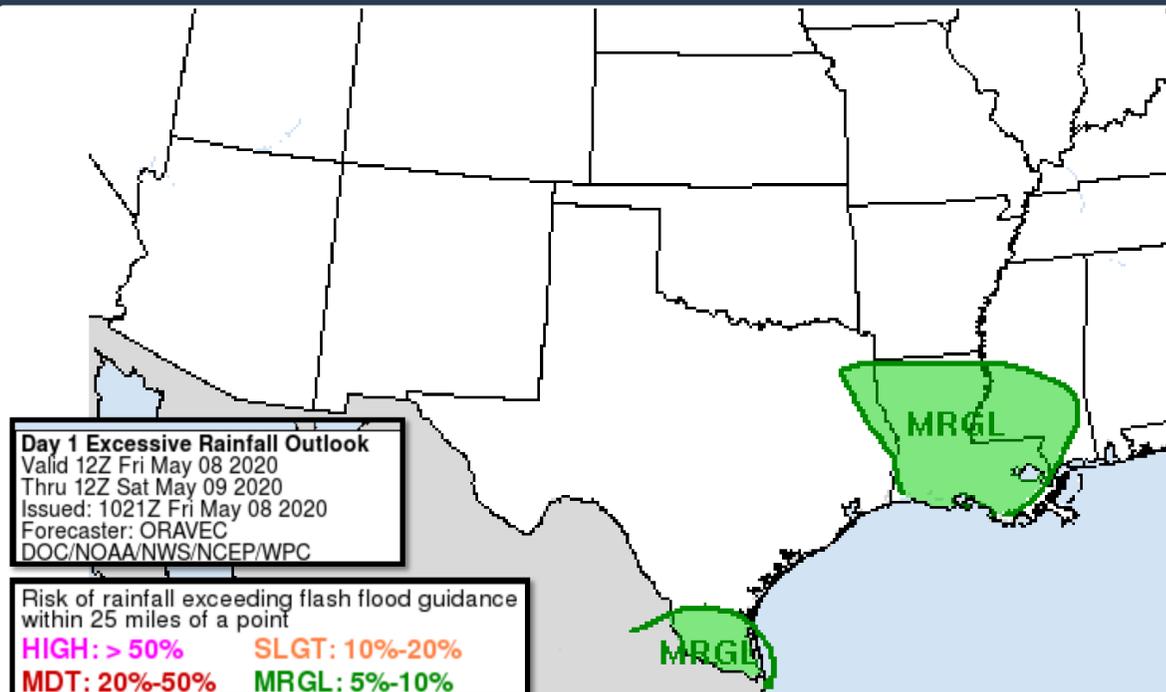
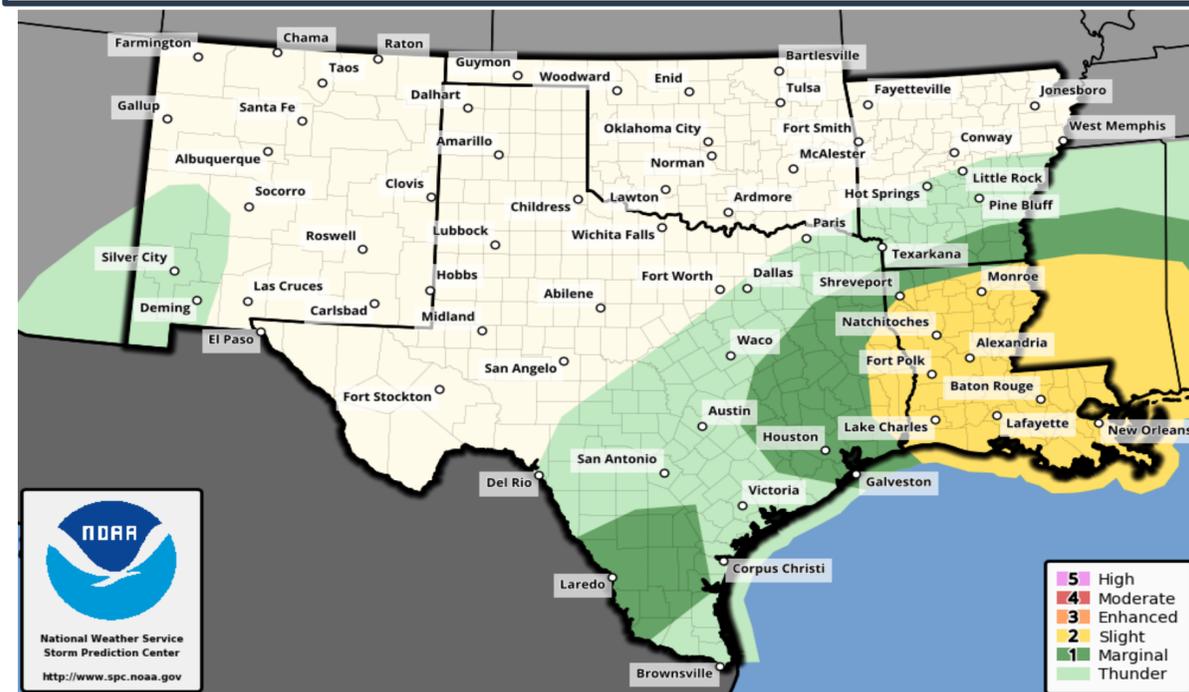


Weather Valid 8am EDT Fri May 08 2020 to 8am EDT Sat May 09 2020  
Fronts Valid 8am EDT Fri May 08 2020  
Issued 4:29 AM EDT Fri, May 08, 2020  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Gallina with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts.

**24-Hour Day 1 QPF**  
Valid 12Z Fri May 08 2020  
Thru 12Z Sat May 09 2020  
Issued: 0821Z Fri May 08 2020

## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



**Day 1 Excessive Rainfall Outlook**  
Valid 12Z Fri May 08 2020  
Thru 12Z Sat May 09 2020  
Issued: 1021Z Fri May 08 2020  
Forecaster: ORAVEC  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

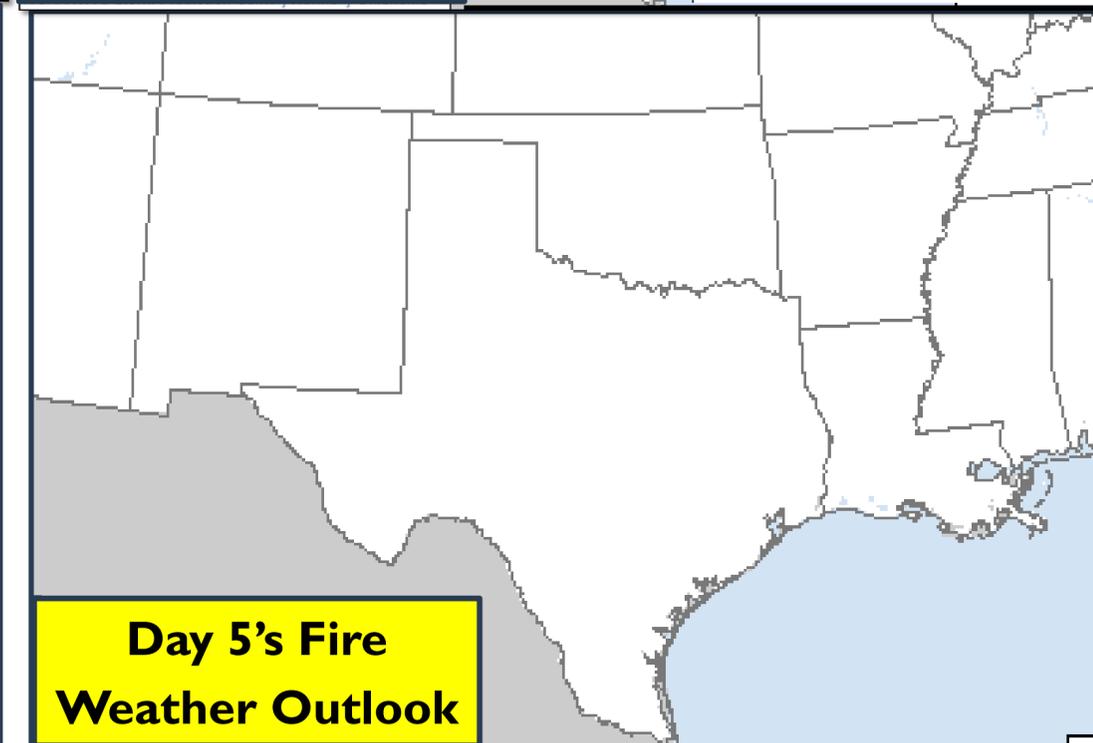
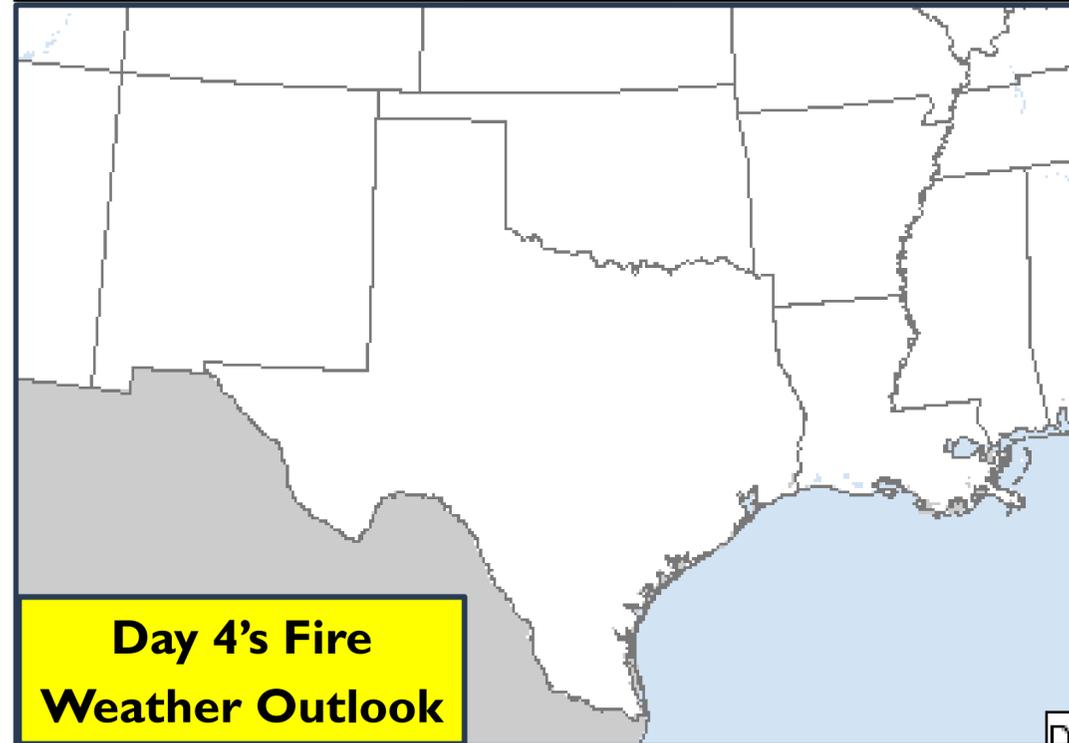
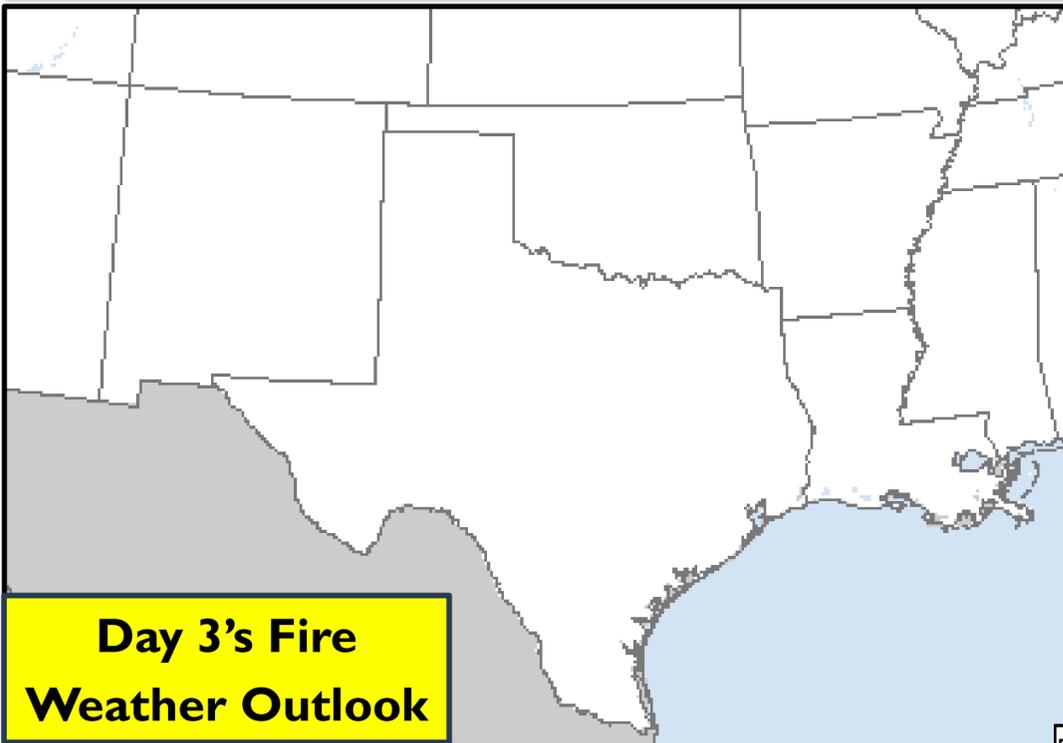
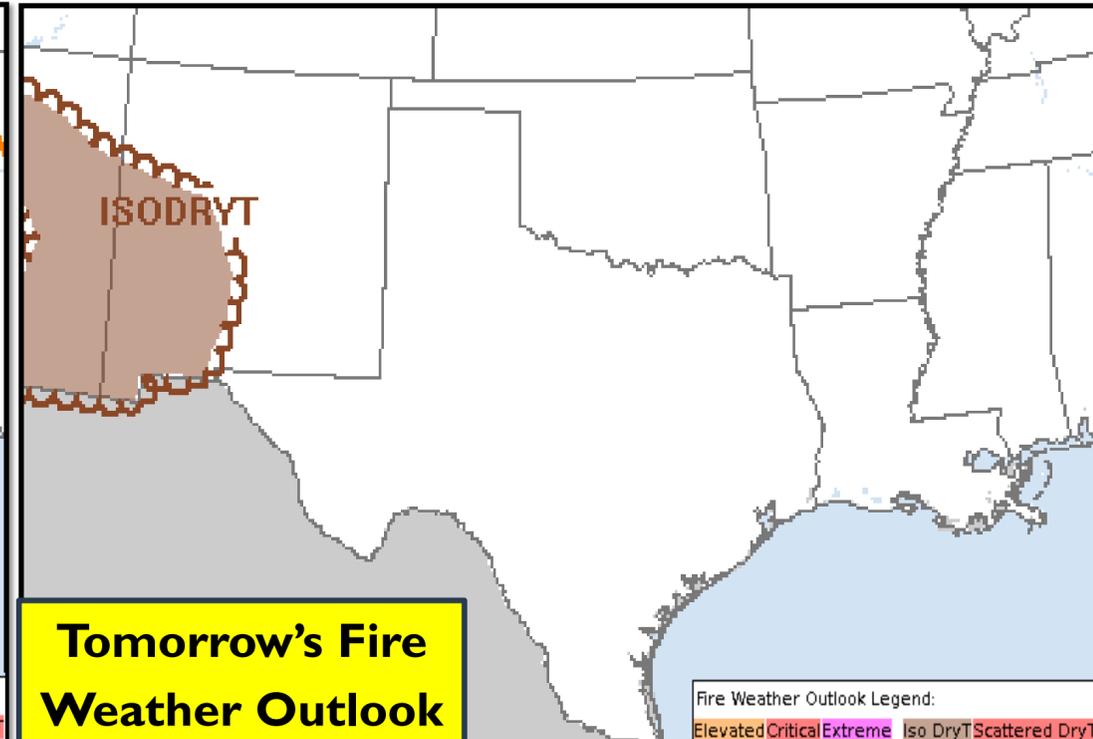
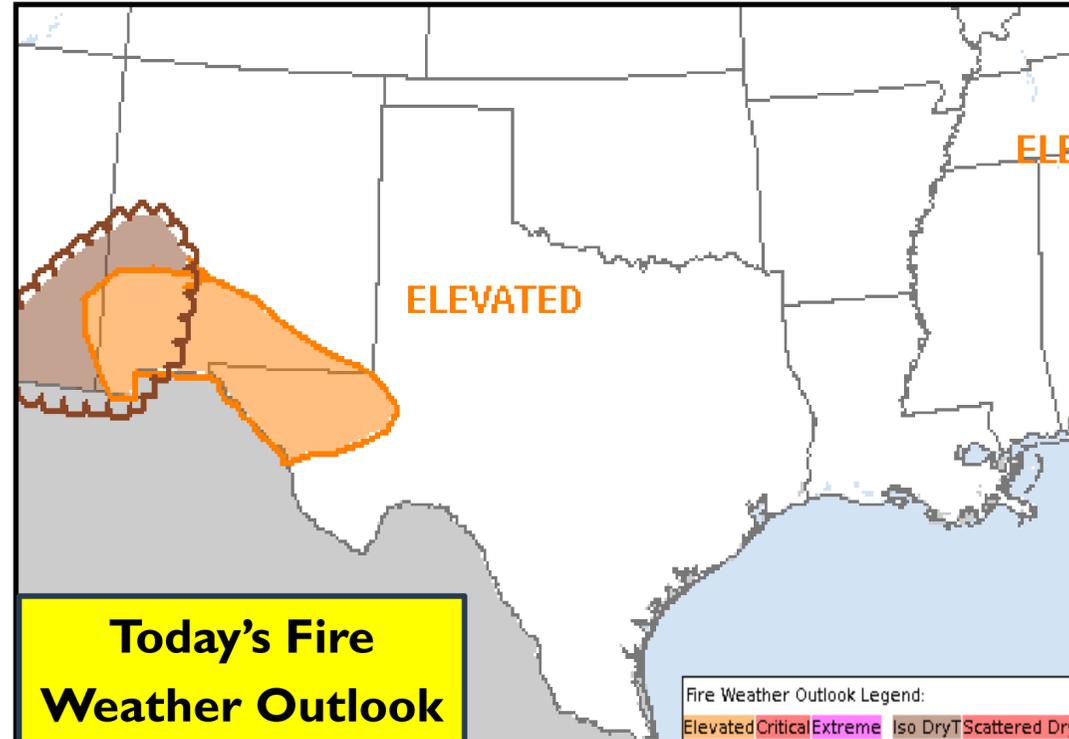
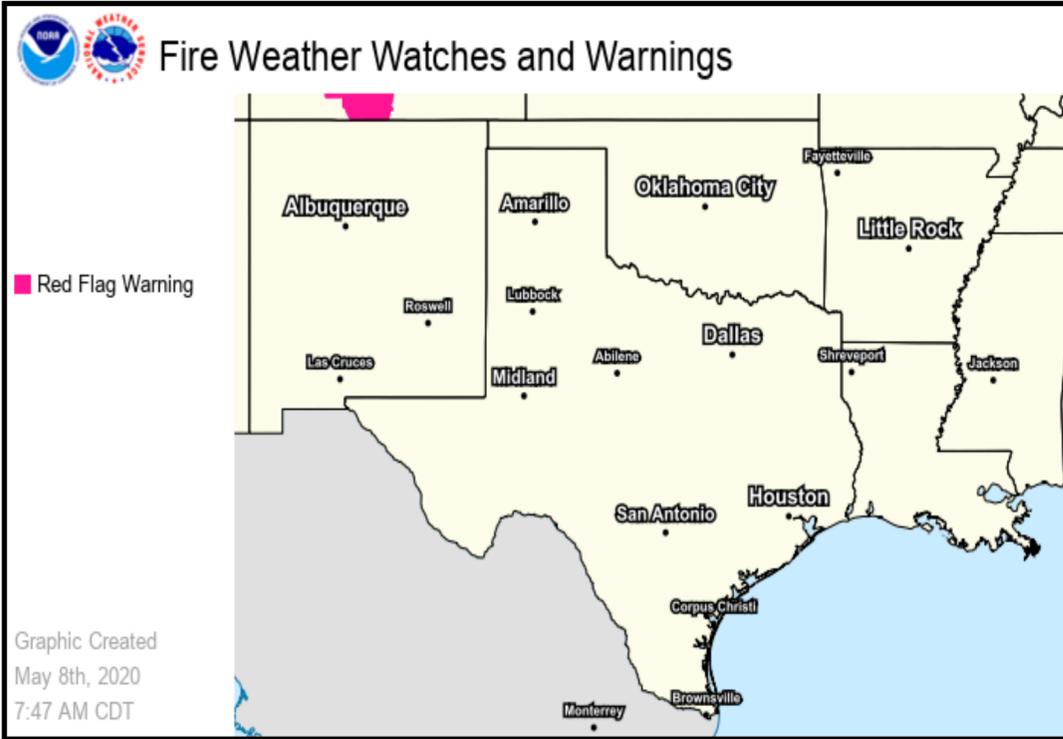
Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance within 25 miles of a point

**HIGH: > 50%**      **SLGT: 10%-20%**  
**MDT: 20%-50%**    **MRGL: 5%-10%**

# Fire Weather Outlooks



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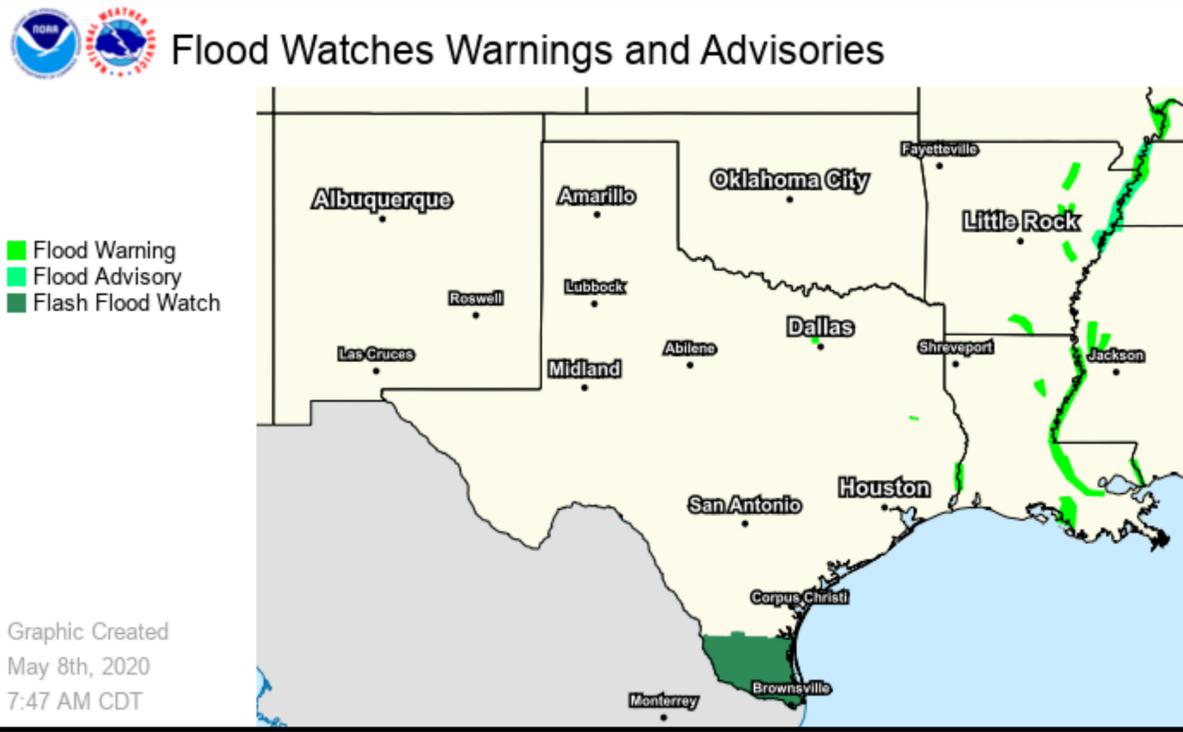
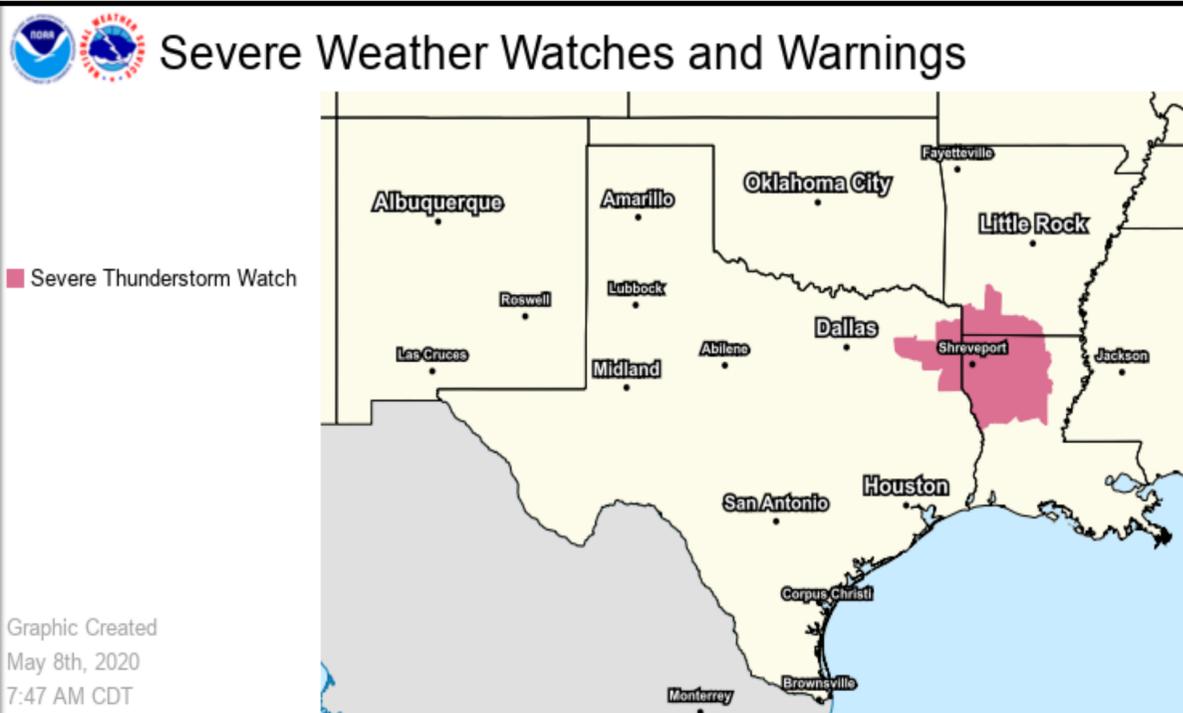


# Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



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Wind, Severe, Winter, and Flood Hazards



**Severe thunderstorm watch across N LA/E TX.**

**Wind advisories across NM, TX, E AR and LA.**

**Flash flood watch for S TX.**

# Tomorrow's Weather

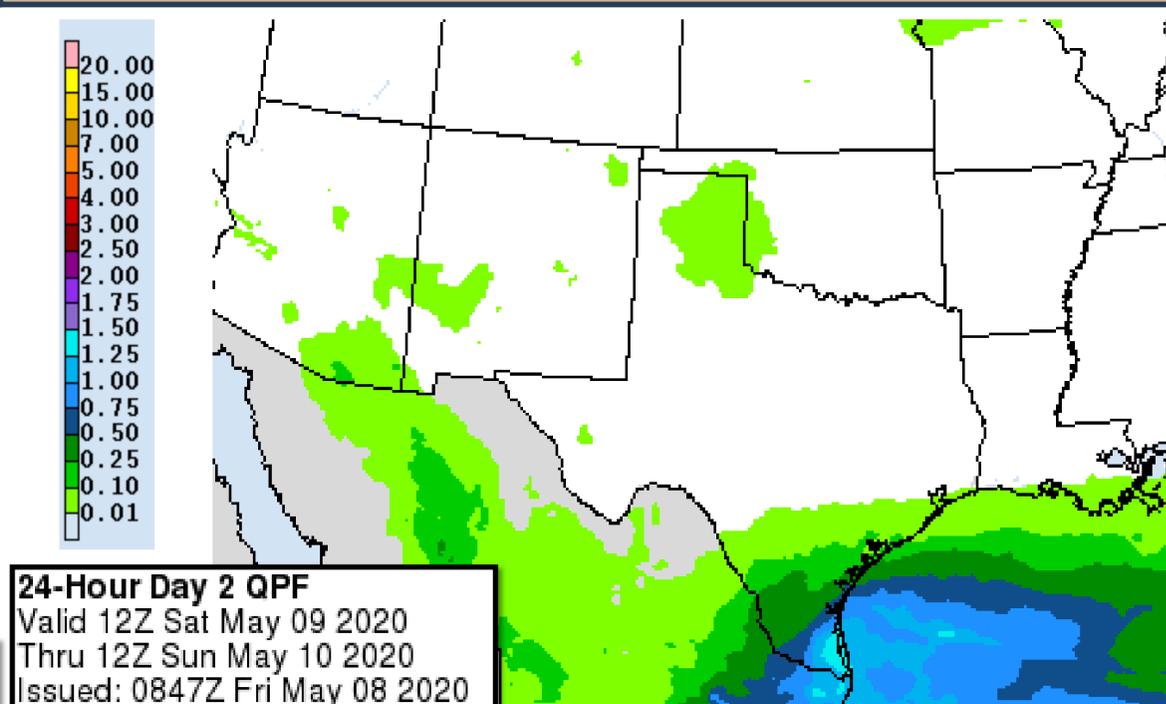
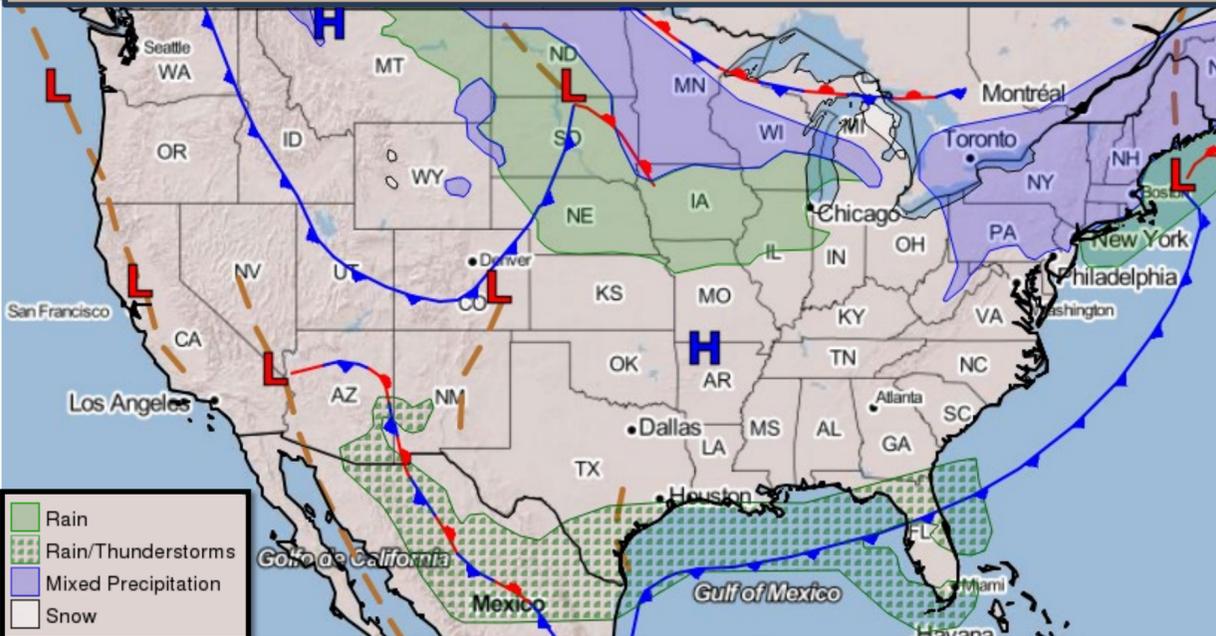


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## Forecast Chart

## Forecast Rainfall

**Isolated flash flooding across S TX.**

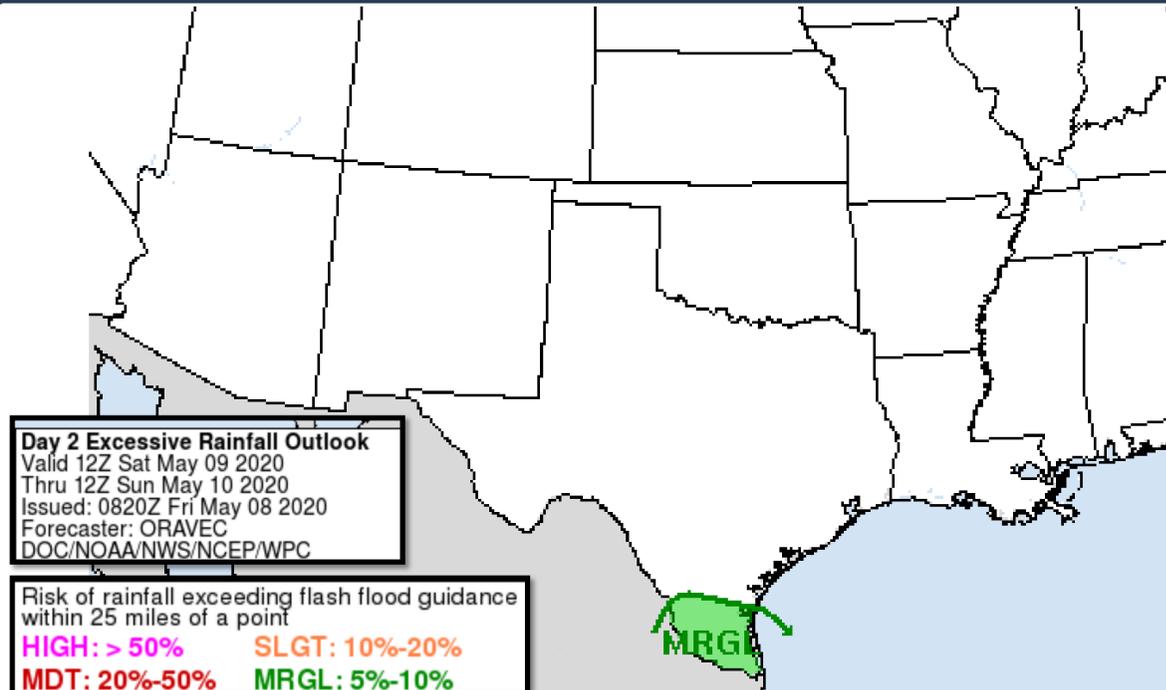
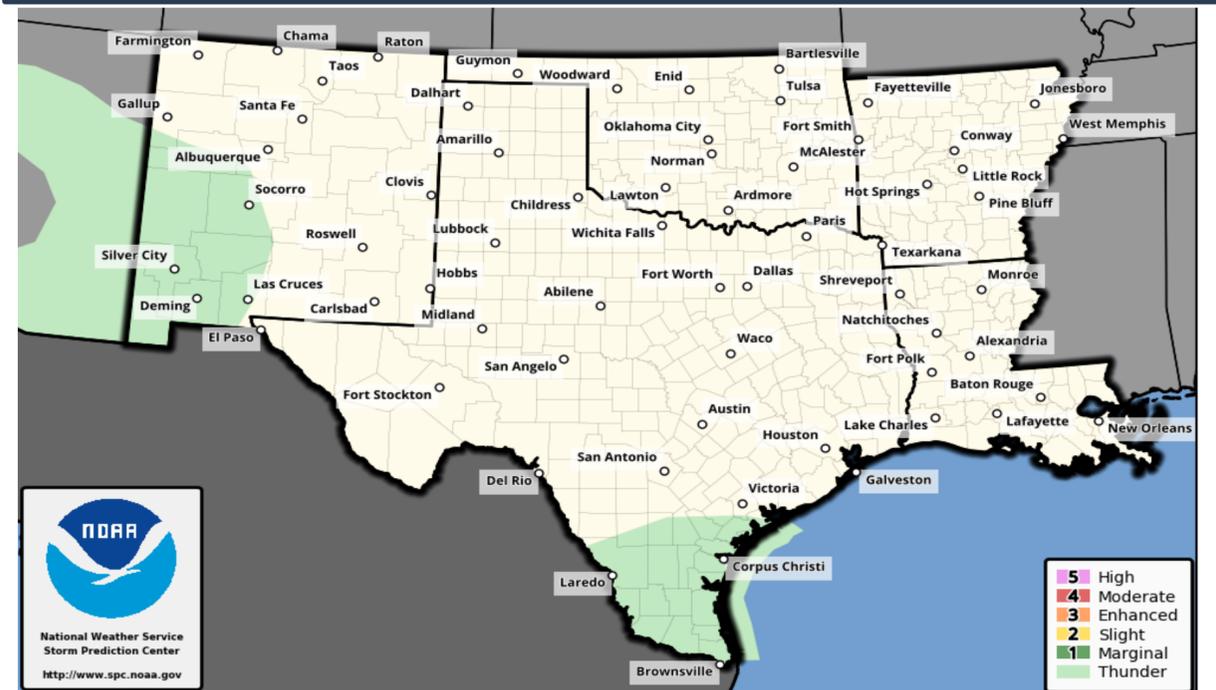


Weather Valid 8am EDT Sat May 09 2020 to 8am EDT Sun May 10 2020  
Fronts Valid 8am EDT Sat May 09 2020  
Issued 4:43 AM EDT Fri, May 08, 2020  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Gallina with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts.

**24-Hour Day 2 QPF**  
Valid 12Z Sat May 09 2020  
Thru 12Z Sun May 10 2020  
Issued: 0847Z Fri May 08 2020

## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



**Day 2 Excessive Rainfall Outlook**  
Valid 12Z Sat May 09 2020  
Thru 12Z Sun May 10 2020  
Issued: 0820Z Fri May 08 2020  
Forecaster: ORAVEC  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance within 25 miles of a point  
**HIGH: > 50%**    **SLGT: 10%-20%**  
**MDT: 20%-50%**    **MRGL: 5%-10%**

# Sunday's Weather

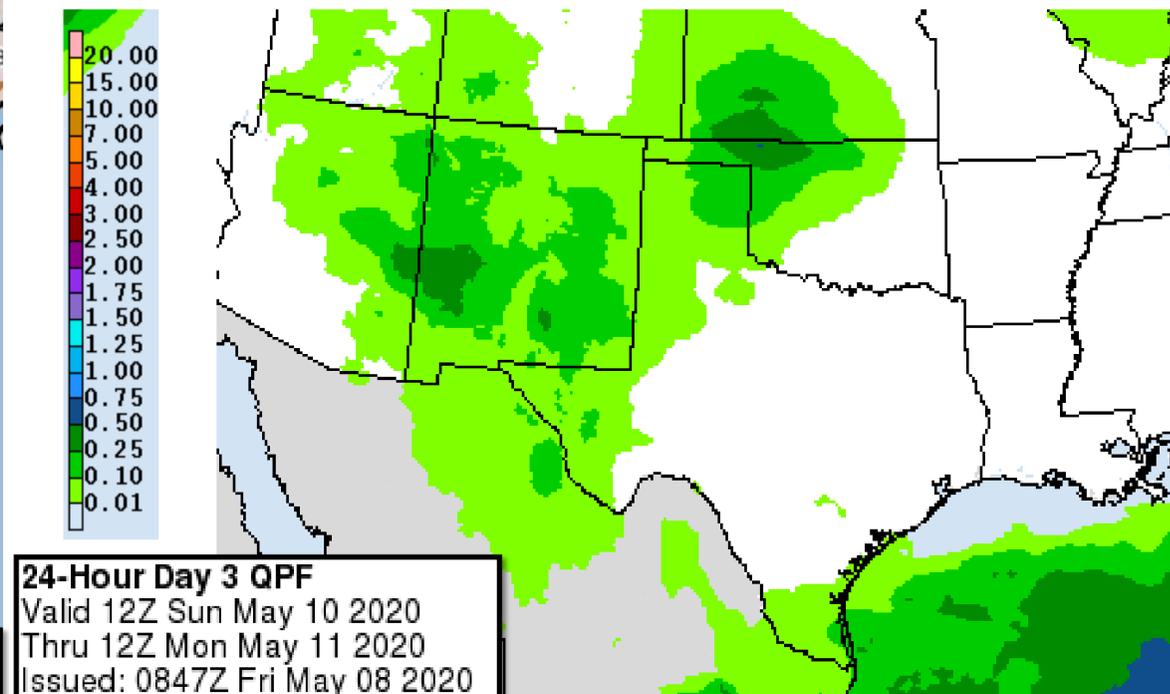
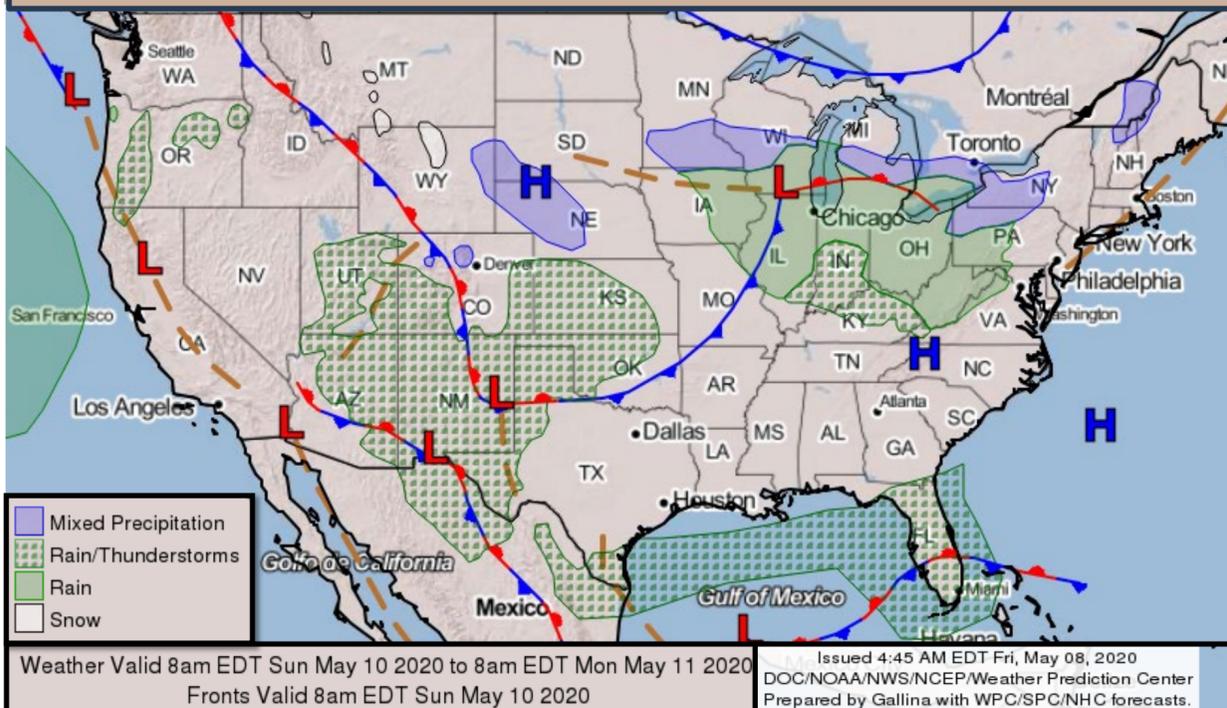


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## Forecast Chart

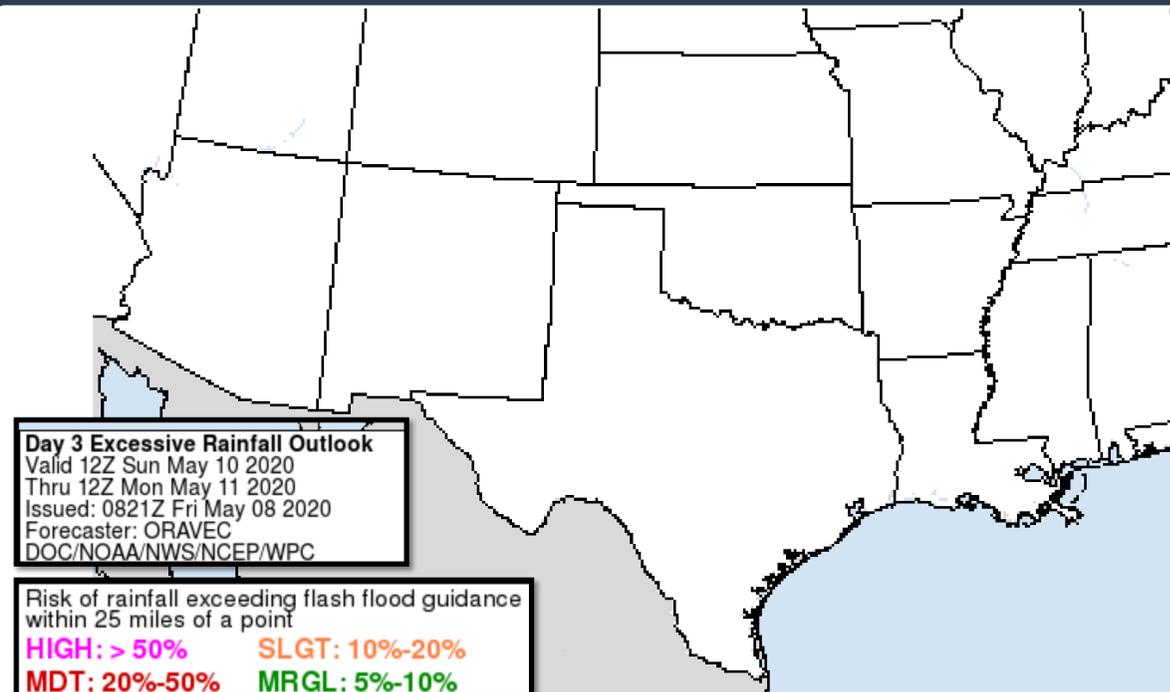
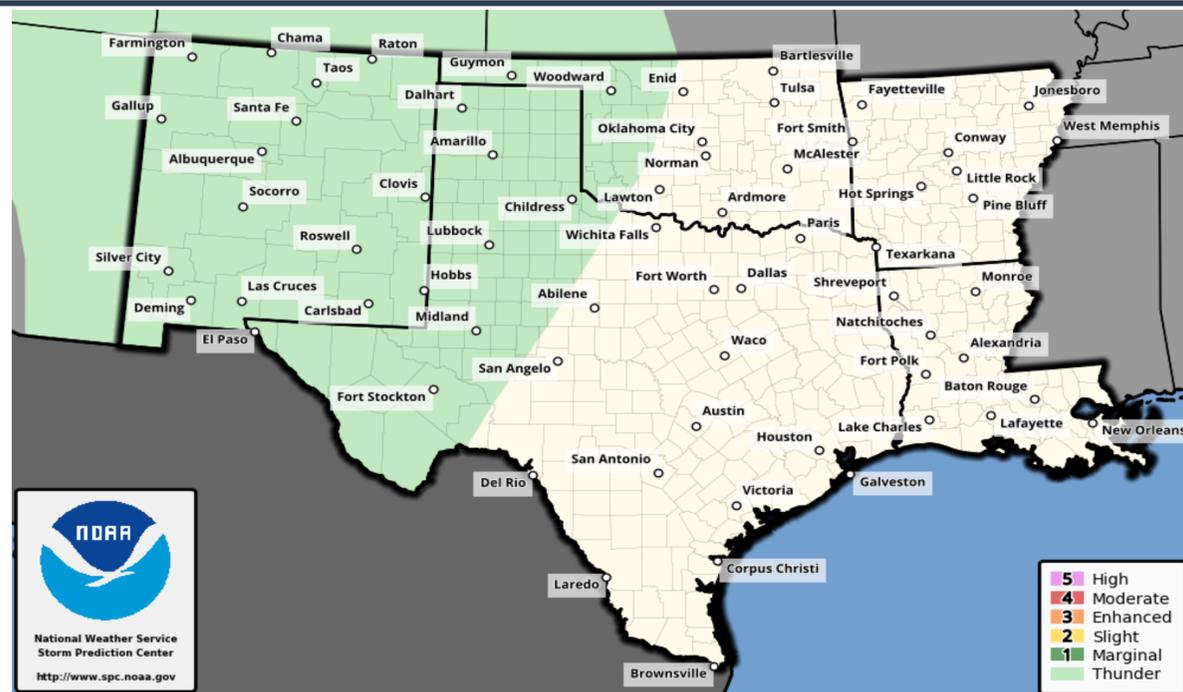
## Forecast Rainfall

**No significant weather expected.**



## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



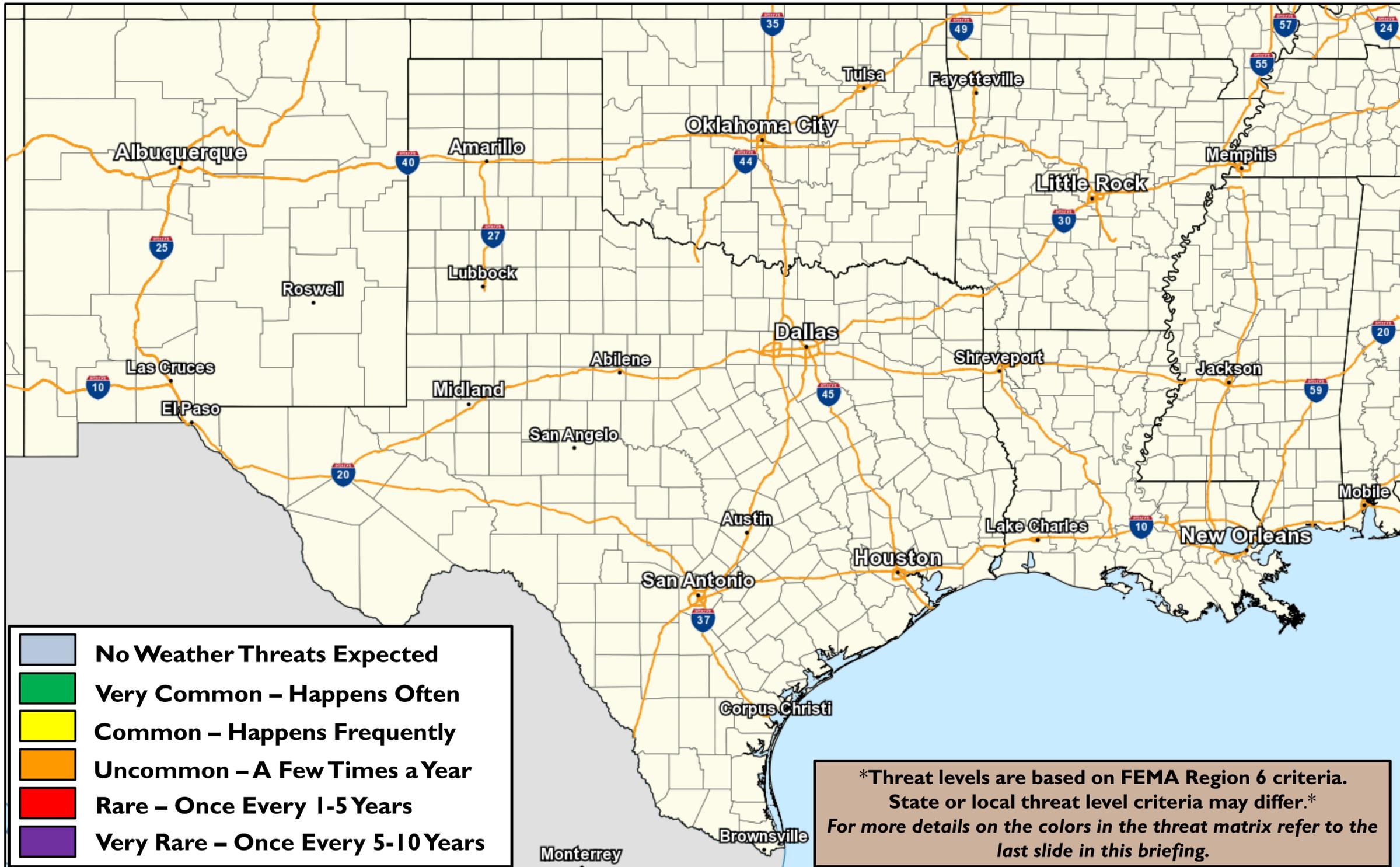
# Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

## Monday - Tuesday



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No significant weather impacts expected.

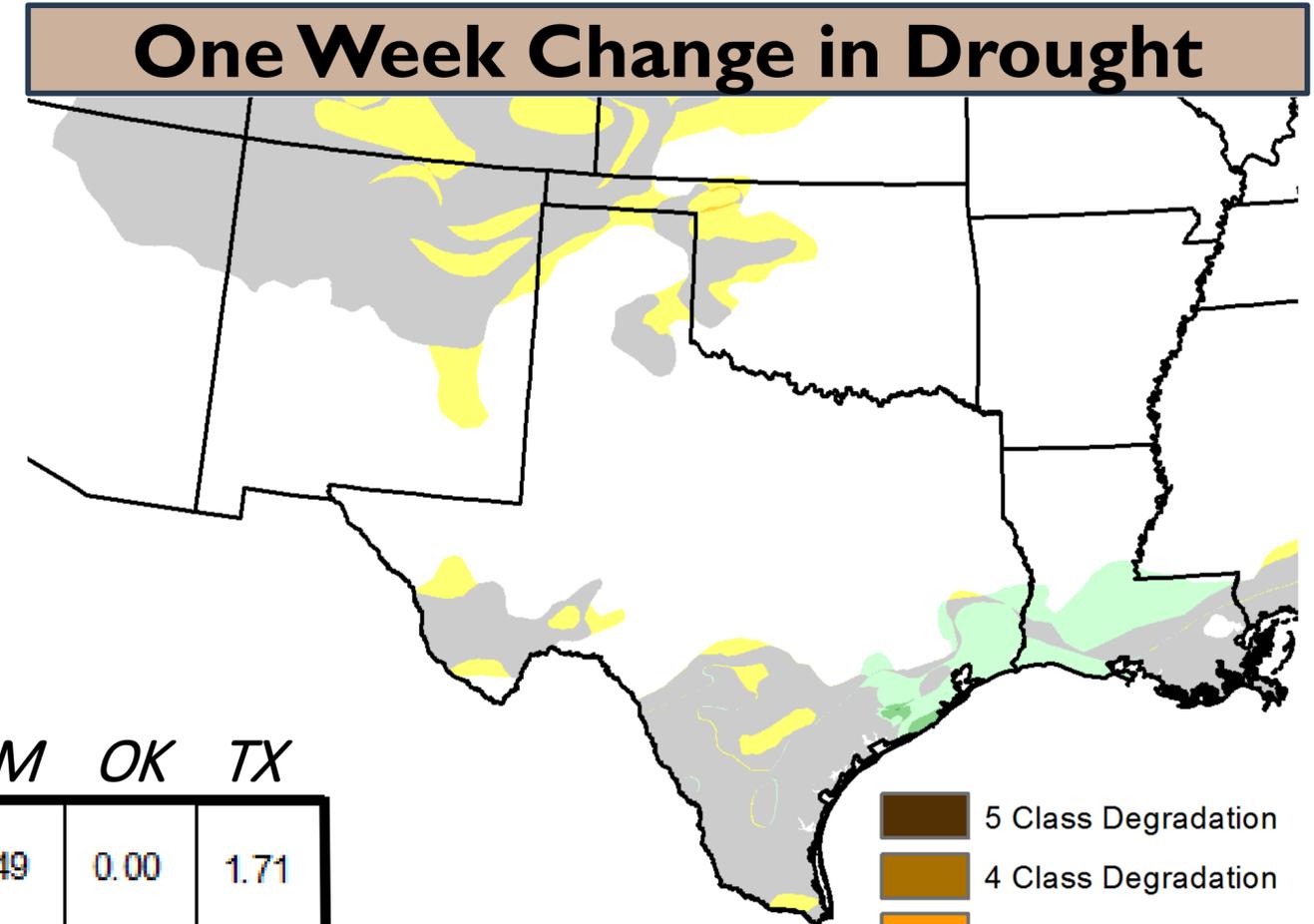
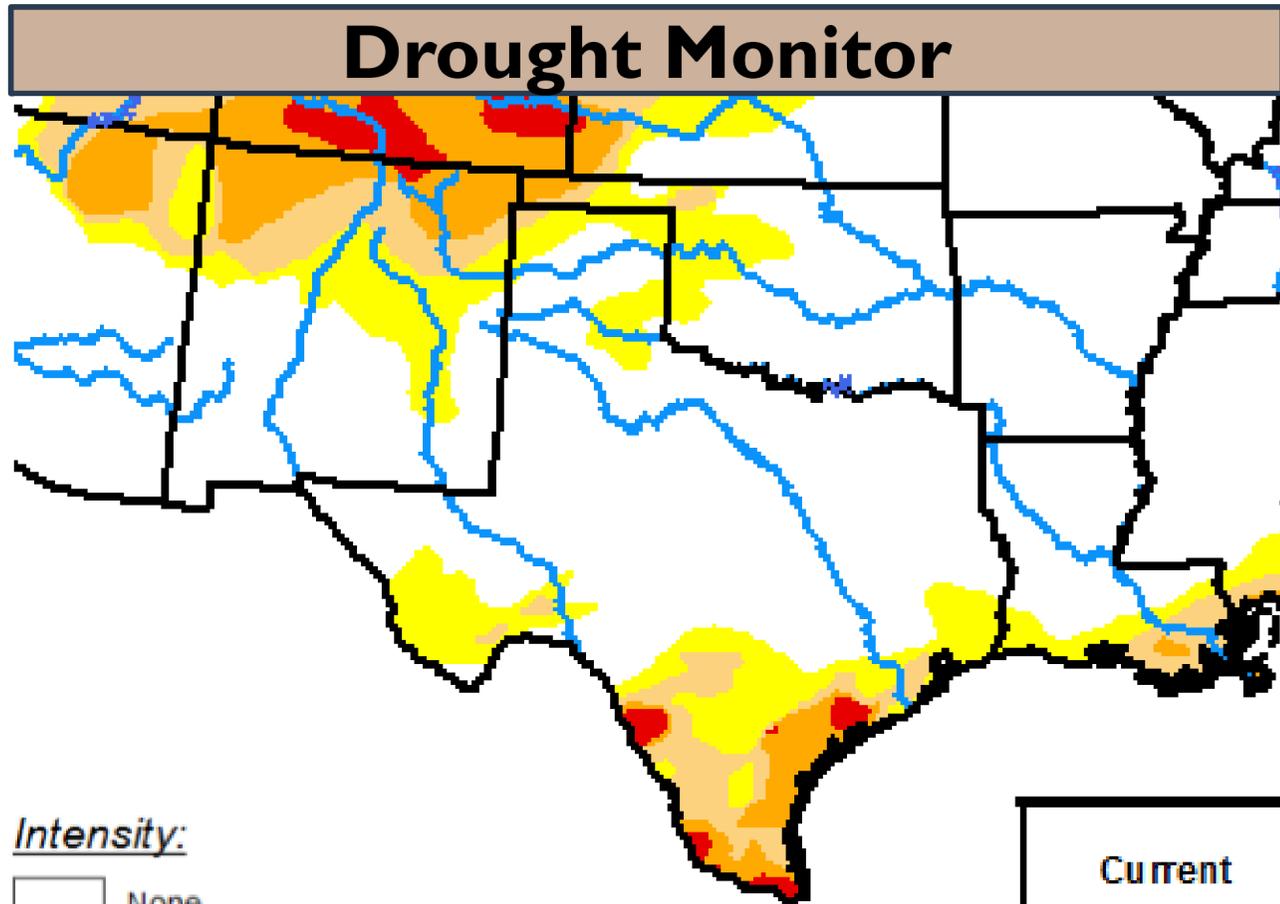


# Drought Monitor (Released May 7, 2020)



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Data valid as of 8 am ET on Tuesday, May 5, 2020



**Intensity:**

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

	AR	LA	NM	OK	TX
<b>Current</b>	0.00	0.00	0.49	0.00	1.71
<b>Last Week</b> <i>04-28-2020</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.59
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>02-04-2020</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.81
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>05-07-2019</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

**Drought Conditions (Percent Area)**

**D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)**

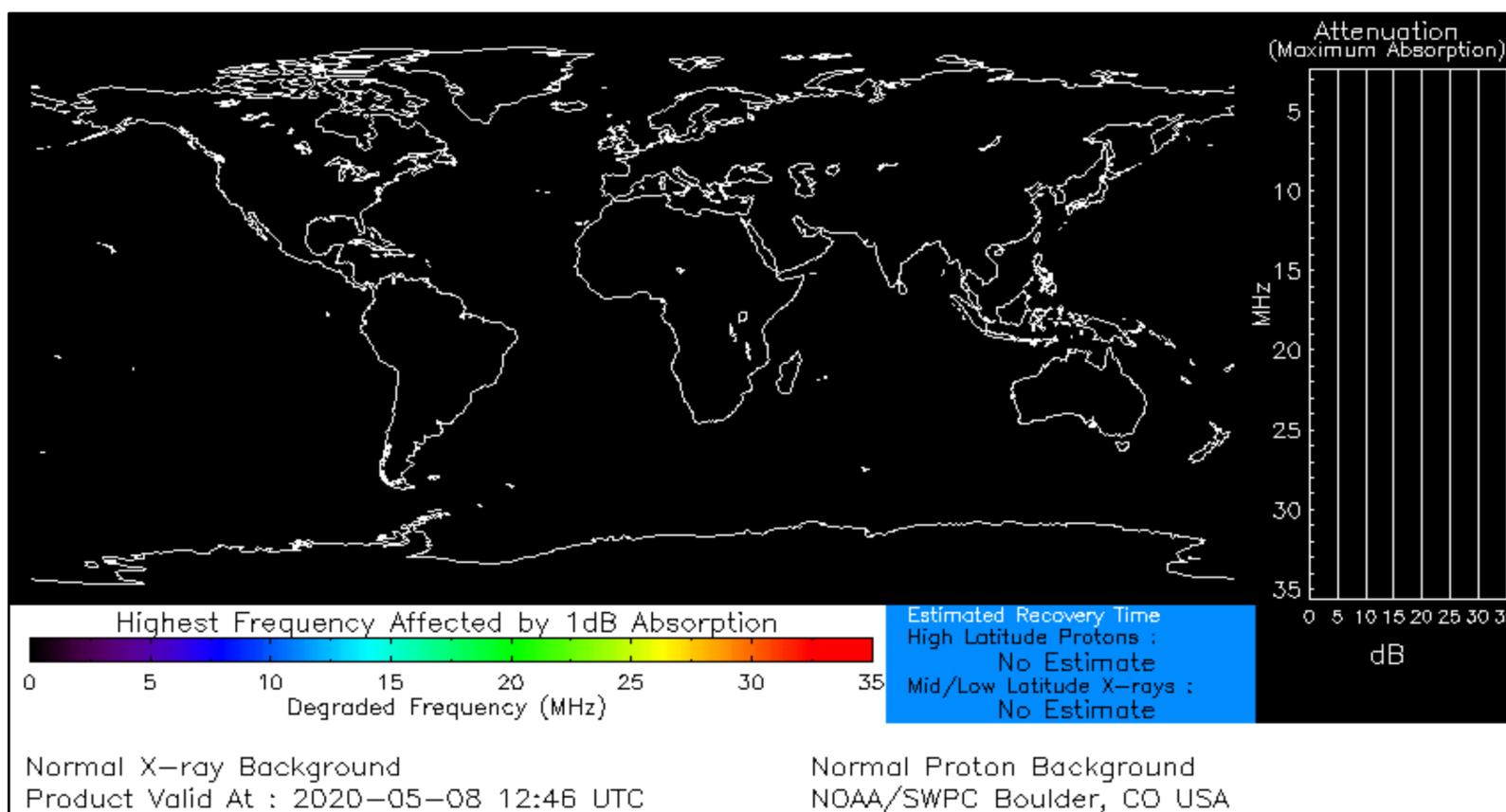
- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement

# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



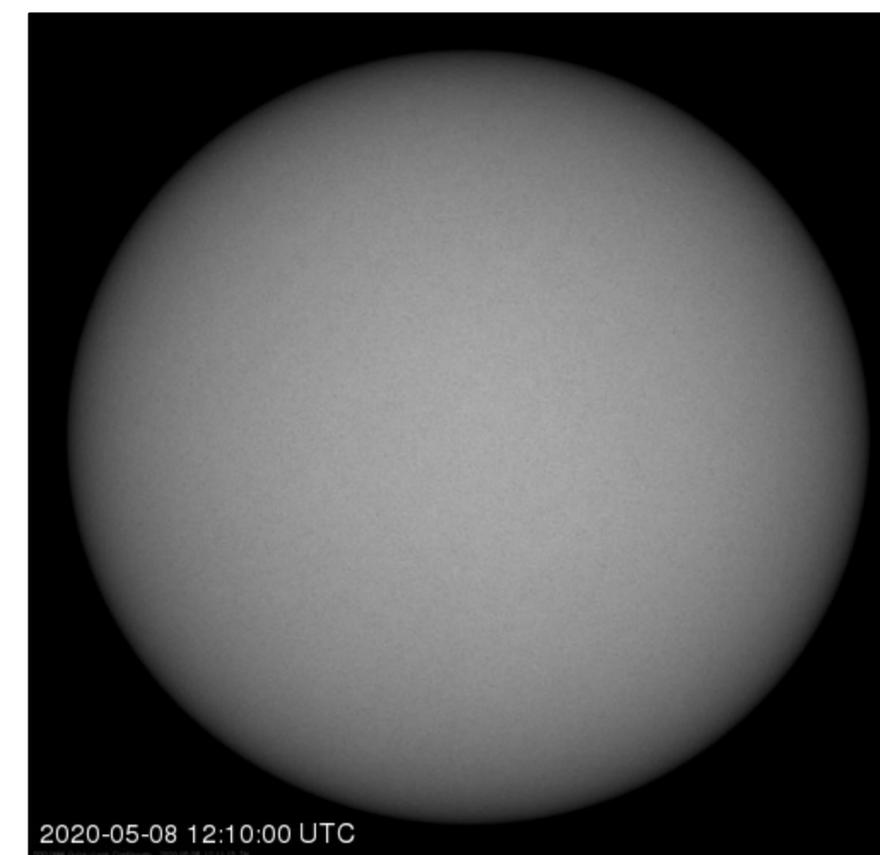
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	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>Geomagnetic Storms</b>	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
<b>Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)</b>	1%	1%	1%
<b>Radio Blackout (R1-R2)</b>	1%	1%	1%
<b>Radio Blackout (R3-R5)</b>	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)





**For more information, please contact:**

**National Weather Service**  
**Southern Region Headquarters**  
**Regional Operations Center**  
**Fort Worth, TX**

**Phone: (682) 703-3747**

**E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)**

**Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>**



## Weather "Threat" Matrix

Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Very Common</b></p> <p>Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines</p>	<p>Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b></p> <p>Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life</p>	<p>Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b></p> <p>Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life</p>	<p>Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b></p> <p>Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life</p>	<p>Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b></p> <p>Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life</p>	<p>Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>

**Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov).**